



*Parks, Recreation and  
Neighborhood Services*

## YOUTH COMMISSION

# ***Commission Meeting Minutes*** **August 24, 2009**

The Youth Commission of the City of San José convened in regular session on August 24, 2009 in the City Council Chambers of San José City Hall at 6:05p.m.

### **I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioner Shankar, Chung, Ong, Taxera, Aldama, Uzoh, Stromfeld and Commissioner Polussa  
Absent: Commissioner Carrera and Commissioner Tu

### **II. APPROVAL OF MINTUES**

June meeting minutes was approved after correction was made.

### **III. CEREMONIAL ITEMS**

None

### **IV. ORAL COMMUNICATION**

None

### **V. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT**

**(Information Only)**

Council assistant Diana Miller informed the commission of several on-line surveys the city is conducting and encourage the commissioners to go on line to give their input.

Information gather from surveys will assist the city in planning and developing services in Environmental, Bike Rout Planning and Green Print Strategic planning. Council assistant Dianna Miller further informed the commission of a workshop to learn how to plan an event going green with zero waste.

### **VI. LIAISON REPORTS**

**(Information Only)**

Sergeant Quezada informed the commission the total number of students truant for the 2008/2009 school year. Truant numbers by age group were 33 eleven year olds; 59 twelve year olds, 141 thirteen year olds, 667 fourteen year olds, 1223 fifteen year olds, 1373 sixteen year olds and 999 eighteen year olds totally 4,661 truants for the school year. Truancy officers have made several presentations to incoming freshmen students in an effort to informed them of the impact of truancy. Sergeant Quezada further informed the commission that the west side truancy office may not be in operation until after the 20<sup>th</sup> of September due to lack of manpower.

Angie Miraflor from the San Jose Public Library informed the commission of the up coming workshops at the libraries. The Kind Library will be hosting a workshop on how to choose the right college on Sept 19<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Miraflor also informed the success and media coverage The Text a Librarian program has gathered.

Human Right Commission Liaison Vanessa Burbach, informed the commission that the Human Right Commission drafted a recommendation, Bank on San Jose. This recommendation is asking the City of San Jose take an active role in promoting awareness to constituent that may not have proper identification due to sex change and or that may reside here illegally. The Human Right Commission has also received the report of the Independent Police Auditor.

## **VII. AD HOC WORKING TEAMS REPORTS (Information Only)**

Commissioner Taxera announced that the Policy did not meet during the summer. However, he suggested that commissioners visit the truancy offices and become more familiar with how the truancy officers are trying to combat truancy among teens.

Commissioner Polussa of the Health and Education Team reported that they did not meet over the summer, but hopes to begin research ideas on health to bring to the table for the youth conference in February 2010.

Commissioner Aldama had nothing to report due to summer recess.

Commissioner Shankar reported that the Executive Board did not meet due to summer recess. She reminded them that there would be officer elections during their September monthly meeting. She reminded all commissioners to turn in their monthly reports and encourage them to attend the up coming Youth Commissioner retreat in September.

## **VIII COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

District 1 Commissioner Shankar reported that the D1 Youth Advisory Council (YAC) participated and assisted at the National Night Out. YAC members attended the Neighborhood Summit planning meeting and gave teen input for a Teen Track for the Summit. Currently the YAC is working on updating their district website.

District 2 Commissioner Chung reported that she is recruiting for the District 2 YAC.

District 3 Commissioner Carrera was not present to report

District 4 Commissioner Ong reported that she and a Youth Advisory Council member assisted at the Summer Jr. Olympics during the summer. She also held her first YAC meeting at the Berryessa Community Center from 4:30p to 5:30pm.

District 5 Vacant

District 6 Commissioner Taxera reported announced the completion of the District 6 work plan. He also reported that he will be involved in created a Student Bill of Rights for his high school district. Student's Bill of Rights is school base and will be modeled after Congressmen Mike Hondas bill for students.

District 7 Commissioner Aldama reported that the D7 Youth Advisory Council (YAC ) assisted at the Summer Jr. Olympic event and at the National Nights Out. They will also be assisting at the Youth Safety Day on September 12, 2009.

District 8 Commissioner Uzoh reported that she and the D8 Youth Advisory Council attended the National Night Out event.

District 9 Commissioner Stromfeld reported that he will be having his first Youth Advisory Council meeting September 15, 2009. He is expecting over 18 YAC members to attend.

District 10 Commissioner Polussa reported that the D10 Youth Advisory Council is planning a back to school movie night on September 18<sup>th</sup> at the Almaden Community Center.

City Wide Commissioner Tu was not present to report.

## IX. ACTION ITEMS

### a.) District 6 Specific Work Plan

Commissioner Taxera presented his District Specific work plan of district 6 to the commission. After presentation, commissioners gave several recommendations on the work plan. It was moved to accept and approve the current work plan and have commissioner present amended work plan at the next commission meeting.

**Moved:** The Youth Commission will accept the district 6 Youth Advisory work plan as is and expect an amended work plan with updates at the next months meeting.

**M/S** Commissioner Polussa / Commission Uzoh.

**Ayes:** All

### b.) Project Cornerstone Collaboration proposal

Commissioner Shankar reviewed the potential commission partnership with Project Cornerstone. The partnership will be geared towards the creation of the Youth Bill of Rights. After discussion, it was agreed by the commission to send Two commissioners to present proposal at the Project Cornerstone Steering Committee meeting on Sept 9<sup>th</sup> 2009

**Moved:** The Youth Commission approve the partnership between the youth commission and Project Cornerstone.

**M/S** Commissioner Polussa / Commissioner Taxera

**Ayes:** All

### c.) SJPD Newsletter Article

Commissioner Aldama introduced Officer Como who gave detailed information regarding Police Ride along. Officer Como gave dates and times of simulating training. Purpose of these training is to give the commissioner a inside perspective of police training to assist with their newsletter article.

**Moved:** To approve the monthly writing schedule for the Insiders Newsletter writing schedule.

**M/S** Commissioner Aldama / Commissioner Polussa      **Ayes:** All

**X      INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

a.) Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Community Services Superintendent Mario Maciel informed the Commission of the Mayor's Annual Community Safety Summit. Mr. Maciel further requested the assistance of the Youth Commission and partner with the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force in developing a PSA focus on peer to peer positive anti violence message. Mr. Maciel showed a short 2 min PSA of past students.

**XI      STAFF REPORTS**

**(Information Item)**

a.) Youth Commission Retreat

Staff reminded the commission of their annual youth commission retreat.

b.) Summer Jr. Olympics

Staff thanked the commissioners that assisted at the Summer Jr. Olympic

**XII.      ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm by Commission Chair Shankar.